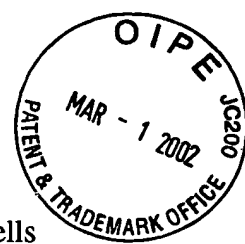


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Abstract

Methods are provided for altering gene expression in a population of human embryonic cells that include introducing a gene expression altering sequence into cells the cells retaining their pluripotent character, for purifying pluripotent embryonic stem cells from a heterogeneous population of cells, and for treating a human suffering from a deficiency of a selected cell type. Reagent cell populations are further provided for supplying material for transplantation consisting essentially of pluripotent human embryonic stem cells modified by foreign genetic material.

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